

Operations Committee Meeting
Thursday, December 1, 2022 8:30 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We have nothing to consider for unfinished business.

2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS

Nothing new to report.

3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS

The O & M staff continued to assist the Saunders County Sheriff with their 1969 cold case investigation at Cottonwood 6-C. The lake was lowered approximately 7'. An excavator was brought in to excavate the area and found nothing. (pictures attached). We did O & M and inspections on 6 Bellwood dams. We had Collins dig out a beaver den on a Swedeburg dam and repack the area. Staff reseeded and mulched the site (picture attached). We had two new panels made for a trash rack on another Swedeburg dam and staff installed them.

3.A. Wanahoo Stilling Basin - (FEMA)

M.E. Collins started on the basin apron repair by de-watering the basin pool. The milling machine started on Monday, November 28th and made good progress. The north wind put the project on hold for a day as the basin filled with water. The basin was pumped out again on Wednesday, November 30 and they are grinding the surf down in the corners where the large grinder can't access. All directors should receive progress reports via email from Eric Suing of FYRA/Houston Engineering.

3.B. Cottonwood Dam Assessments 21-A & 7-A

JEO and a representative from the NRCS will present the Assessment reports during our education segment at the December Board meeting, December 12.

NRCS would like the District to send a letter of request and statement of commitment for Federal Assistance when applying for funding for "Planning" through the Watershed Rehabilitation Program.

3.C. Recreation Area Hay Harvest

Dan Ourada paid the District \$5,865.75 for 74.25 tons of hay from Czechland Lake. He had 110 bales.

3.D. Sand/Duck Dam 15 Land Locked Issue

Jason Scott who purchased the NRD property around Sand/Duck Dam site 15, has an 8.5 acre parcel which is landlocked by water and neighboring property (photo attached). Mr. Scott was wondering if the District would assist in some way in providing access by staying on his own property and crossing the backwaters of the lake with a bridging device. His other option would be to request an ingress/egress easement from his neighbors, Ourada's.

The Ourada's have an easement to access the water's edge. The dock they have installed crosses the Scott property line. (Picture attached).

3.E. City of North Bend Request on Levee Maintenance

The City of North Bend is requesting maintenance assistance for the North Bend Levee. Before the 2019 flood, the District along with Dodge County and the City would contribute \$2,000 each for maintenance of the levee. With the time lapse of about 4 years, the City is asking each entity if they can contribute \$5,000 each this year. In the coming years, to get back on schedule and to keep up with maintenance, bumping the annual contribution to \$3,000 each per year. (letter attached).

4. ROCK AND JETTY

Mike McGinn submitted an invoice for \$5,554.54 for jetty repair work completed on the Platte River. Staff have not inspected the site.

5. LAKE WANAHOO

5.A. Lake Wanahoo Beaver Dam Issue Update

As reported last month, Staff found 10 beaver dams in the 3rd mile of the Lake Wanahoo property. Noah and Kaiden have trapped approximately 6 beavers in the last three weeks. Staff is looking into options for draining the flooded areas and breaking the dams. Attached are pictures of the affected areas as well as a map of the dams in the area.

5.B. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales

For the month of October, the District received \$790.00 in annual park permit revenue. The year by year break down of annual permit sales is listed below.

We will start selling 2023 permits 12/1/2022.

Month	Monthly Total	YTD
October 2022	\$790.00	\$75,160.50
October 2021	\$867.50	\$85,626.85
October 2020	\$512.50	\$95,957.5
October 2019	\$572.50	\$82,200.00

5.C. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue

For the month of October, the District received \$12,951.50 in camping revenue. The year by year comparison is listed below.

Month	Month Total	YTD
October 2022	\$12,951.50	\$127,326.74
October 2021	\$4,714.00	\$114,640.11
October 2020	\$10,236.02	\$131,137.03
October 2019	\$4,362.36	\$90,939.60

5.D. Wanahoo Recreation Season Revenue

Gottschalk will review the 2022 Wanahoo recreation season and report on final revenue and expense totals.

5.E. Clint Johannes Education Building

During the month of November, the building was rented 21 times, with 7 NRD

events. Revenue for the month was \$960.

After discussion, we are planning to increase the rates for the building.

Current rates: \$100 refundable deposit
\$150 refundable deposit if there is alcohol
\$60 day rental (7am-2pm)
\$100 night rental (4pm-midnight)
\$120 full day

Increase to: \$150 refundable deposit (regardless of alcohol or not)
\$75 day rental (7am-2pm)
\$125 night rental (4pm-midnight)
\$150 full day

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Director Johnson has had a few discussions with Director Seier, and Sarah Heideman who is the State FFA Advisor with the Nebraska Department of Education. They want to take the creek sampling/testing statewide. There will not be any action taken at this time, simply discussion and what the NRD could possibly provide for this.

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

November's KTIC Radio ad and Wahoo Newspaper e-ad featured the upcoming water reports deadline of December 15. These will continue through December.

6.A.2. Analytics

The LPNNRD Facebook/Twitter pages, and the website are the fastest and low-cost ways to get information out to the public. Tracking analytics are a way to see if people are seeing the information and what ways seem to be most effective. If you are on Facebook or Twitter, please like, follow, share, or retweet the Lower Platte North NRD posts!

Total reach/impressions show how many people saw the post/tweet. Engagements include likes, comments, shares/retweets and link clicks.

FACEBOOK	Total Reach	Engagements	Followers
November 1-27	6,264	184	1,413
October	5,042	5,343	1,409
September	5,098	153	1,408
August	17,232	387	1,408

TWITTER	Total impressions	Engagements	Followers
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November 1-27	2,658	124	383
October	2,324	174	385
September	2,654	185	381
August	4,784	207	380

Top Posts on Facebook and Twitter:

- Fall festival flyer
- Native American Heritage event flyer
- Upcoming December trivia event flyer
- Coffee Lakeside November flyer
- Tree order promotion

WEEK	Users	Traffic Channel	Top Pages	Devices
November 1-27	937	Organic 62.2% Direct 27.4% Referral 7.1% Social 3.3%	Home Lake Wanahoo Board of Directors Czechland Lake Staff	Mobile 49.73% Desktop 47.92% Tablet 2.35%
October	1,526	Organic 67.6% Direct 24.1% Referral 4.5% Social 3.7%	Lake Wanahoo Home Czechland Lake Board of Directors Outdoor Recreation	Mobile 58.46% Desktop 39.60% Tablet 1.94%
September	1,702	Organic 74.3% Direct 19.9% Referral 5.8% Social 0.29%	Lake Wanahoo Home Czechland Lake Outdoor Recreation Staff	Mobile 59.21% Desktop 38.98% Tablet 1.81%
August	2,270	Organic 66.6% Direct 24.6% Referral 7.6% Social 1.3%	Lake Wanahoo Home Czechland Lake Outdoor Recreation Downloads	Mobile 59.73% Desktop 37.77% Tablet 2.51%

Traffic channels: organic traffic means they use a search engine then choose an option that includes lpnnrd.org, direct traffic means they type in lpnnrd.org directly (or have it bookmarked), and referral traffic is any other traffic not from a search engine or social (such as a link from another site).

Social clicks: 27 from Facebook, 5 from Twitter.

Referral clicks: 26 from NARD, 22 from NGPC, 1 from ad on Wahoo Newspaper's site.

6.A.3. News Channel Nebraska

November featured the O&M video. We will have the list of times the spot aired by board meeting.

6.B. Education

6.B.1. Past Events

- November 5th: Fall Festival. 4:00-9:00 pm at the lake. Chilly day but roughly 30+ people attended this event. Hayrack rides, activities in the building, a campfire took place.
- November 8th: Aquinas Middle School. Talked with middle school students about keystone species.
- November 10th: Coffee Lakeside. Leaving your leaves and other helpful winter tips for the wildlife in your yard.
- November 12th: Native American Heritage Day. 8 people attended-- artifact ID, kids activities, and food with recipes was offered.
- November 14th: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K we talked about birds, winter adaptations, and made pinecone bird feeders.
- November 15th: Survival Club. Wild edible foods. We continue to have 20-24 kids attend, most are 6th and 7th graders.
- November 18th: Wahoo High School Careers Class. Talked with seniors about my career path and did some hands on activities to show them what kinds of things I do now.

6.B.2. Future Events

December 2nd: R3 Conference at Mahoney State Park

December 3rd: Trivia and Game Day

December 8th: Coffee Lakeside, Nebraska Phenology

December 16th: Survival Club

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

Phoenix Web Group (PWG) migrated RWD's WaterWorks site to the NRD's home server. This move will provide added security to the billing software. The RWD has been working with PWG to repair/replace meter transmitters that are not functional. As winter approaches and the drought conditions persist the RWD is aware of potential negative impacts to infrastructure. Extra vigilance in observing field conditions will be necessary.

7.A. Colon System

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read, and bills mailed 11/30.

7.B. Bruno System

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read, and bills mailed 11/30.

7.C. Other









LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

PO Box 126 511 Commercial Park Road Wahoo, NE 68066
Phone 402.443.4675 Fax 402.443.5339
lpnrd@lpnrd.org www.lpnrd.org

December 12, 2022

Robert Lawson
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
100 Centennial Mall N., Suite 152
Lincoln, NE 68508-3866

Dear Mr. Lawson,

Attached is statement of commitment from the Lower Platte North NRD for federal assistance through the Watershed Rehabilitation Program. We are requesting funds for **Planning** on the following dams:
Cottonwood Watershed, Cottonwood 21-A, NID# NE1887, located in Saunders County, Nebraska. constructed under the PL-566 authority in 1983.

A Dam Assessment was completed for the High Hazard dam listed above and the final report was uploaded to the Rehab SharePoint State Folder. The dam assessment report recommended rehabilitating the dam to the current high hazard class and provided alternatives for consideration that addressed deficiencies brought up by Nebraska's Dam Safety Agency. Deficiencies consist of Inadequate Auxiliary Spillway Capacity, Minor Wave Erosion on the upstream slope, & Uncontrolled Seepage on the downstream of the right half of the dam embankment.

The names and addresses of the contacts for this project are:

Eric Gottschalk, General Manager, PO Box 126, Wahoo, NE. 402-443-4675,
egottschalk@lpnrd.org
Bob Heimann, O & M Manager, PO Box 126, Wahoo, NE. 402-443-4675,
bheimann@lpnrd.org

We are grateful for the opportunity to submit this application. Please let us know if any additional supporting documentation is needed.

Sincerely,

Eric Gottschalk
General Manager

Cc: Allen Gehring, NRCS State Conservation Engineer
Robert Sullivan, NRCS Dam Safety Engineer

protecting lives protecting property protecting the future

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Statement of Commitment

The Lower Platte North NRD shall:

1. Assist in leading the locally led planning effort
2. Obtain needed land rights including use of power of eminent domain, if necessary, for project installation
3. Provide local cost-share funds and/or in-kind services to provide the required 35 percent of total construction project costs
4. Enter into a new Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with the understanding of the terms of the new O&M agreement, if project construction is undertaken
5. Provide funds for continuing O&M actions
6. Obtain required permits and approvals for project installation at our cost
7. Provide leadership to assure appropriate land use controls are enacted or acquired for downstream areas prior to construction if a low or significant hazard dam is involved
8. Provide leadership to assure adequate land treatment measures have been installed and maintained on at least 50 percent of the watershed area above the dam
9. Enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with NRCS before being credited with the value of in-kind contributions

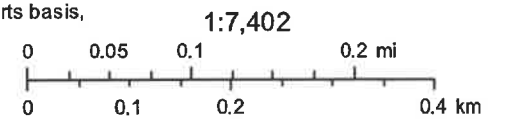
I concur with the above listed statements and hereby commit the Lower Platte North NRD to cooperate fully with NRCS for developing a plan for rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A.

Eric Gottschalk
General Manager
Lower Platte North NRD



November 29, 2022 **DISCLAIMER:** This map is not intended for conveyances, nor is it a legal survey. The information is presented on a best-efforts basis, and should not be relied upon for making financial, survey, legal or other commitments.

- Parcels
- Sections







City of North Bend

CINOBEN@GPCOM.NET

P.O. Box 401

607 Main Street

NORTH BEND, NE 68649-0401

402•652•3584 fax: 402•652•3591

November 7, 2022

Lower Platte North
Natural Resources District
Attn. Bob Heimann
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

RE: dike funding

Dear Bob Heimann,

The City of North Bend is requesting financial help from the NRD and Dodge County for dike work needed on the north side of the Platte River, west of Highway #79. We had approval for annual maintenance on the dike where each entity would contribute up to \$2,000 per year, along with the City. Al Enfield was the city's dike inspector, who also did most of the maintenance required. Following Al's death we contacted Dean Lux, who worked with Enfield hauling the dirt needed, to take over the inspection of dike. Before any general maintenance was done on the dike, we had the 2019 flood, then Covid, leaving a 5 year lapse in repairs. The city's maintenance man has mowed every year, stating this year that on the west end there are at least 3 badger holes that need to be repaired and a lot of trees that need to be cut out on the area west of Riverview Shores where the farmer's pivot waters the dike. At this time the City does not know what our expense will be to get the dike caught up, but assuming \$6,000 will not cover it. We are asking if each entity could allow up to \$5,000 this one time and then get back on schedule with an increase of up to \$3,000/year. Please let us know if this is acceptable. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Theresa Busse
City Clerk



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Water Use Online Reporting

The deadline for water use reports is quickly approaching on **December 15th**. Producers required to submit reports must complete this online at producer.lpnrd.org. If you have questions, please call the NRD at 402-443-4675.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District